

Stuff Review #3

Book Title: Feed

Author: M.T. Anderson

Your Full Name: Nick Bruce

Rating: 4 circles/Real Page Turner

Feed, is M.T. Anderson's idea of future America. I hated it, but it is not as simple as that. Even if you don't like it, the plot is addictive, so you keep on reading. I think that it's the overall strangeness of the book that has this effect on you. It was probably the weirdest book that I've ever read.

The book takes place in a time when everybody has the feed, or a computer chip that tells you what to do, where to go, how to think, and what to buy, implanted in to their head. You might be saying to yourself, "What's the point of getting the feed if it controls you?" Actually, the feed does have a few benefits. You are able to talk with people far away using the feed (sort of like Instant Messaging), and if there are any bargains on any category of merchandise, it will notify you of them. In addition, it can locate a place for you and automatically take you there in your upcar (car). All of life is dependent on the feed.

The two main characters, Titus and Violet, meet and fall in love with each other on the moon during spring break. Titus is your average teenager; almost 100 percent of his thoughts and actions are controlled by the feed. Violet, on the other hand, is very different. She is not as influenced by the feed and is more concerned with things other than herself, such as the condition of the earth (the book takes place in a time where modern civilization is polluting and essentially ruining the earth). While on the moon, their feeds get hacked and they go in to mal (malfunction). Titus eventually makes a full recovery, but Violet doesn't. Her feed was implanted at a late age, which means it is more prone to damage. The doctors pulled Violet away from the others and told her that her feed may never fully repair itself. She may not have believed the doctors at first, but as time passed, it was reality.

The rest of the book focused on the relationship between Titus and Violet. It was surprising how well the two very different personalities bonded; in fact, it was almost unbelievable that their opinions didn't separate them. Eventually their differences did tear them apart. They started to argue. Violet was very uptight about two things: the world situation getting worse, and her feed was starting to have constant malfunctions. Titus was feeling like Violet wasn't cool anymore, and that she was too smart for him. This caused a lot of friction, and they broke up. Violet died soon after of her feed malfunctions, and Titus went on and lived his life.

What really made the book strange was the dialect. They used very interesting words and phrases like "I'm so null," "The truffle is totally undervalued," "brag," "the spit," and "total insane" (the last three words mean good). Even if the book was weird and bad, I have to admit I did learn a few things. The most important of those lessons is this: no matter how well things are going, everything must go.